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ANNUAL REPORT


On The Health of

HODDESDON URBAN DISTRICT

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For the Year 1958

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EAST HERTFORDSHIRE COMBINED DISTRICTS

REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

FOR THE YEAR 1958

HODDESDON URBAN DISTRICT

P R E F A C E

To the Chairman and Members of the
Public Health Committee

Mr. Chairman, and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present the Annual Report upon the health of the Urban District of Hoddesdon for the year ending 31st December 1958. This report is prepared on the lines suggested in Ministry of Health Circular 22/58 of 9th December 1958.

During the calendar year with which this report deals, Dr. R.P. Garrow acted as Medical Officer of Health. I must express my gratitude to him for his kindness in showing me round the district and introducing me to various officials before I began my duties on 1st January 1959. I hope that his years of retirement will be long and happy.

I wish to thank the members of the Public Health Committee and also of the Council for the kindness and courtesy they have shown me since my arrival, my colleagues in other departments for their co-operation and the staff of the Public Health Department for their constant support; in particular I am grateful to those who have assisted in the preparation of the statistical portion of this report.

General Statistics:

The total increase in the estimated mid-year population of Hoddesdon was 400, making a population figure of 16,440 as compared with that of 16,040 in 1957. Ten years ago the figure was 13,680 so there has been an increase of 2,760 persons since 1948.

Vital Statistics:

There were 30 more live births in 1958 than in 1957, but also 5 still-births as compared with 4 the previous year. Both the standardised birth rate and the still-birth rate compare favourably with those of the County of Hertford and of England and Wales as a whole. None the less it must be remembered that the small number of figures involved can, when expressed statistically as rates, show a considerable variation from national figures.

Of the five deaths occurring in infants under 1 year of age, four were in the first four weeks of life. Prematurity, congenital abnormalities and in one instance, broncho-pneumonia were the causes of these infant deaths.

It is pleasant to be able to record that there were no maternal deaths during 1958.

The total deaths for all ages were 170, exceeding those for 1957 by 38. The standardised death rate is seen to be very similar to that for England and Wales.

Causes of Death

It is a matter for concern to note that deaths from cancer of the lung or bronchus have risen from 3 to 14, all in men, there having been none in women. While arguments regarding the cause of cancer of the lung still rage, there can be no question about the close association which exists between lung cancer and smoking. If boys and girls could be dissuaded from starting to smoke, which should be simpler than persuading a heavy or even a medium smoker to stop, there is little doubt that in due course this mounting menace to the health of the country could be checked.

Coronary Disease, with 24 deaths, has accounted for 14.1 per cent of all the deaths in Hoddesdon in 1958. Here again, those middle aged persons who are overweight and lack sufficient exercise, by remedying these two faults, could play a part in reducing the heavy toll taken by coronary disease.

Infectious Disease

The general health of the District was good and there is little to report concerning infectious disease. There were only 84 cases of measles, 16 of Scarlet Fever and 1 of Non-paralytic Poliomyelitis.

Poliomyelitis

Many inoculations against Poliomyelitis were carried out by the County Council Medical Officers during the year and in this they were greatly assisted by local practitioners, who carried out inoculations in their own Surgeries.

Food Hygiene Regulations 1955 - 57

No prosecutions were necessary under these Regulations but, acting on the recommendations of the Public Health Inspectors, many improvements were carried out in food premises throughout the District.

National Assistance Act, 1948 and 1951

No action was required under the provisions of Section 47 of this Act.

Housing

During the year 124 new houses were built, 50 by the local authority and 74 by private enterprise.

I am,

Mr. Chairman, and Gentlemen, ,

Your obedient servant

Gordon M. Frizelle.

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

Gordon M. Frizelle, T.D., M.D., D.P.H.

Central Office:

(East Herts. Combined Districts)

Council Offices,
High Street,
HODDESDON, Herts.

Telephone:

Office:-

Hoddesdon 3061

Private:-

Hertford 2150.

Deputy (Part-Time) Medical Officer of Health

Peter de Bec Turtle, V.R.D., M.A., B.M., B.Ch., D.P.H.,
Haileybury and Imperial Service College

Telephone: Hoddesdon 2040.

PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTORS

Chief Public Health Inspector (Also Housing Manager) W. N. DAVID
Certificate of the R.S.I. and S.I.E.J.B.
Certificate for Inspector of Meat and Other Foods.
Smoke Inspector's Certificate.

Deputy Chief Public Health Inspector (Also Deputy Housing Manager) A. C. GITTINS
Certificate of the R.S.I. and S.I.E.J.B.
Certificate for Inspector of Meat and Other Foods
Diploma of The Royal Institute of Public Health and Hygiene
Certificate of the Institute of Housing in Housing Management.

Additional Public Health Inspector M. PERRY
Certificate of P.H.I.E.B.
Certificate for Inspector of Meat and Other Foods.

Trainee Public Health Inspector - Mr. R.F. Coldham

Public Health Department:-

Council Offices, Telephone:
High Street, Hoddesdon 3061.
Hoddesdon, Herts.

PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE

The Chairman of the Public Health Committee for the Session 1958/59 was Councillor Mr. C.A. Tournalmain. The Vice-Chairman was Councillor Dr. F.J.L. Lang, M.B.E.

Also on the Committee were Councillor Mrs. E.J. Tilling, and Councillors Messrs. A. Everington, A. Godfrey, F. Hewitt, F.E. Rymill, J.R. Sears, W. Wallace and C.D.B. Williams.

GENERAL STATISTICS 1958

(TABLE 1)

(Figures for 1957 are shown in brackets)

POPULATION:

Estimated Mid-Year Population of Hoddesdon Urban District

	16,440	(16,040)	
Natural increase or decrease	+ 125
Migration in or out	+ 275
Total increase or decrease	+ 400

GENERAL STATISTICS:

<u>Area in Acres</u>	4,423 No change.
------------------------------	------------------

Number of Inhabited Domestic Premises according to Rate Books
as at 30th June, 1958

5,010 (4,830)

Number of Houses per acre	1.13
Number of Persons per acre	3.72
Number of Persons per house	3.28

Rateable Value of District £192,846

Sum Represented by a Penny Rate £765

VITAL STATISTICS

(Table 2)

(Figures for 1957 are shown in brackets)

<u>LIVE BIRTHS</u>	Total	295	(265).
Live Birth Rate per 1,000 population		17.94	(16.5)
Area Comparability Factor for Births		1.00	(1.00)
Standardised Live Birth Rate per 1,000 population		17.94	(16.5)
<u>STILL BIRTHS</u>	Total	5	(4)
Still-births rate per 1,000 live and still-births		16.66	(16.52)
<u>BIRTHS</u>	Total Live and Still-births	300	(269)
	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>
Live Births, Total Number	150	145	295
Legitimate	144	140	284
Illegitimate	6	5	11
Still-births, Total Number	3	2	5
Legitimate	3	2	5
Illegitimate	-	-	-
Illegitimate Live Births per cent of total live births		3.72%	

COMPARISON RATES

	<u>Hoddesdon Urban District</u>	<u>Hertford County</u>	<u>England & Wales.</u>
Live Birth Rate	17.94	17.89	
Area Comparability Factor	1.00	0.93	
Standardised Birth Rate	17.94	16.64	16.40
Still Birth Rate	16.66	19.51	21.60

INFANT DEATHS

	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>
Infants under one year, Total	3	2	5
Legitimate	3	2	5
Illegitimate	-	-	-
Neo-Natal Mortality (first four weeks) (included above in total of infant deaths of under one year) Total	3	1	4
Legitimate	3	1	4
Illegitimate	-	-	-
Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 live births Total		16.94	(23.08)
Legitimate		17.60	
Illegitimate		-	
Neo-Natal Mortality Rate per 1,000 live births (first four weeks)		13.55	

MATERNAL DEATHS

Maternal Deaths, including abortion	-
Maternal Mortality Rate per 1,000 live and still-births	-

COMPARISON RATES

	<u>Hoddesdon Urban District</u>	<u>Hertford County</u>	<u>England & Wales</u>
Infant Mortality Rate	16.94	16.45	22.5
Legitimate	17.60	16.5	
Illegitimate	-	16.6	
Neo-Natal Mortality Rate	13.55	11.46	16.2
Maternal Mortality Rate	-	0.43	0.43

DEATHS

Total Deaths for all ages	170	(132)
Males	90	(66)
Females	80	(66)
Death Rate per 1,000 population	10.34	(8.22)
Area Comparability factor for Deaths	1.11	(1.11)
Standardised Death Rate per 1,000 population	11.48	(9.12)

COMPARISON RATES

	<u>Hoddesdon Urban District</u>	<u>Hertford County</u>	<u>England & Wales</u>
Death Rate	10.34	9.65	
Area Comparability Factor	1.11	1.07	
Standardised Death Rate	11.48	10.33	11.7

PREVALENCE OF AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS DISEASES

Notifiable Disease (other than Tuberculosis) Notified during 1958

Disease	Total	<u>Age Group in Years</u>						
		Under 1	1-	5-	15-	25-	Over 65	Age Unknown
Scarlet Fever	16	-	3	12	1	-	-	-
Whooping Cough	9	2	6	1	-	-	-	-
Poliomyelitis (Paralytic (acute) (Non- Paralytic	- 1	- -	- -	- 1	- -	- -	- -	- -
Measles	84	4	34	43	2	1	-	-
Acute Pneumonia	18	1	2	2	-	11	2	-
Erysipelas	4	-	-	-	-	3	1	-
Puerperal Pyrexia	4	-	-	-	2	2	-	-
Infective Hepatitis	6	-	-	3	-	-	-	3
Dysentery	4	-	-	3	1	-	-	-
Food Poisoning	1	-	-	-	-	-	1	-
Suspected Food Poisoning	8	-	2	2	-	4	-	-

INCIDENCE OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE DURING THE DIFFERENT MONTHS

Disease	First Quarter			Second Quarter			Third Quarter			Fourth Quarter		
	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June	July	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Scarlet Fever	-	-	2	-	-	-	1	-	-	2	3	8
Whooping Cough	2	1	-	2	3	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
Acute Polio- myelitis	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-
Measles	1	1	1	-	-	7	23	37	9	-	4	1
Acute Pneumonia	2	1	2	2	2	1	-	1	1	2	1	3
Erysipelas	-	1	-	1	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
Puerperal Pyrexia	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	1
Infective Hepatitis	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	2	2
Dysentery	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4
Food Poisoning	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-
Suspected Food Poisoning	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	6	-	-	-	1

T U B E R C U L O S I S during 1958

<u>Tuberculosis</u> <u>New cases only</u>	Total all Ages	Under 5 Years	5 to 15	15 to 24	25 to 44	45 to 64	65 and Over	Age not known
Respiratory	5	-	-	-	4	1	-	-
Meninges and C.N.S.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Other	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

<u>Tuberculosis</u>		Total	Males		Females	
<u>All Cases</u>			P.	N.P.	P.	N.P.
Cases on Register at 1st January, 1957		104	46	9	38	11
Cases added to Register	New Cases	5	2	-	3	-
	Restored to Register	-	-	-	-	-
	Inward Transfers	9	3	-	6	-
Cases removed from Register	Deaths	3	3	-	-	-
	Outward Transfers	4	1	-	3	-
	Patients Cured	3	2	-	1	-
	Other	1	1	-	-	-
Cases remaining on Register at 31st December, 1958		107	44	9	43	11

CAUSES OF DEATH DURING THE YEAR 1958

	M.	F.
ALL CAUSES	90	80
Tuberculosis, respiratory	1	-
Tuberculosis, other	-	-
Syphilitic disease	1	1
Diphtheria	-	-
Whooping Cough	-	-
Meningococcal infections	-	-
Acute Poliomyelitis	-	-
Measles	-	-
Other infective and parasitic disease	-	-
Malignant neoplasm, stomach	3	3
" " lung, bronchus	14	-
" " breast	-	5
" " uterus	-	1
Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	6	10
Leukaemia, aleukaemia	-	1
Diabetes	-	1
Vascular Lesions of nervous system	4	11
Coronary disease, angina	16	8
Hypertension with heart disease	3	1
Other heart disease	5	8
Other circulatory disease	6	6
Influenza	-	-
Pneumonia	4	5
Bronchitis	7	1
Other disease of respiratory system	1	1
Ulcer of Stomach and Duodenum	1	-
Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	1	1
Nephritis and nephrosis	-	-
Hyperplasia of prostate	-	-
Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion	-	-
Congenital malformations	2	1
Other defined and ill-defined diseases	9	14
Motor vehicle accidents	2	1
All other accidents	3	1
Suicide	-	-
Homicide and operations of war	1	-
Still births	3	2
Deaths of infants under four weeks of age	3	1
" " " four weeks to one year of age	-	1

LABORATORY SERVICE

Laboratory facilities are provided by the Public Health Laboratory Service at Cambridge.

In emergency, certain (Medical) specimens can be examined at the Laboratory of the Hertford County Hospital, Hertford.

COUNTY COUNCIL HEALTH SERVICES

The following County Council Services under the National Health Service Act, 1946, are available for Hoddesdon. Full details can be obtained from the County Medical Officer, County Hall, Hertford.

Home Nursing, Midwifery, Health Visiting and Welfare Centres

Number of Nurses: 5 Welfare Centres: 2.

Vaccinations, Diphtheria and Whooping Cough Immunisations

A Medical Officer at the Welfare Centres will vaccinate or immunise babies at the request of parents. Family Doctors will also provide this prophylaxis free of charge.

Home and Domestic Help

Applications for this Service should be addressed to the Local Organiser at 27, Bull Plain, Hertford (Telephone: HERTFORD 3232).

A charge may be made for this Service, in accordance with the County Council's assessment scale.

Care and After Care

Applications for recuperative holidays, if recommended by the Medical Attendant, should be made to the County Medical Officer.

Equipment can be issued on loan to patients being nursed at home. A Medical Loan Depot has been established at the Council Offices.

A charge may be made for both the above Services.

Ambulance Service

There is an Ambulance Station at Hoddesdon; Telephone HODDESDON 3021. Except in emergency an ambulance should be ordered by a Medical Practitioner.

Mental Health

Arrangements for mental treatment on the recommendation of a Medical Practitioner are made by the Duly Authorised Officer, Mr. J.H. Webster, Collet Road, Ware, Herts: (Telephone: WARE 541).

Help in respect of Mentally Defective persons can be obtained by application to the County Medical Officer.

An Occupation Centre for defective children has been established in Hertford.

HOSPITAL SERVICES

Hoddesdon is served chiefly by the Hertford County Hospital, Hertford.

Chronic Sick can receive hospital treatment at Western House Hospital, Collett Road, Ware.

All the above beds are managed by the Hertford Group Hospital Board.

Western House also provides beds under Part III of the National Assistance Act, 1948, on behalf of the Hertfordshire County Council.

GENERAL PRACTITIONER MEDICAL SERVICES.

There are 12 doctors in Hoddesdon. Practitioners from adjoining areas also have some patients in Hoddesdon.

DENTAL SERVICE

There are now 5 dentists in Hoddesdon. There is also a School Dental Clinic at the Welfare Centre adjoining the Council Offices.

OTHER SERVICES

There is Mortuary managed by the Council.

Blood Transfusion Donor Sessions are held at the Welfare Centre adjoining the Council Offices.

There is a very active Old People's Welfare Service comprising an Over 60's Club, Meals Service, Visiting Committee, and Chiropody Service.

A Citizens Advice Bureau holds sessions on Mondays 7.30 - 9 p.m. and Wednesdays 2.30 - 4 p.m., at the Public Library, High Street, Hoddesdon. The Bureau, which serves a wide area around Hoddesdon, possesses a Legal Advisor and a Marriage Guidance Counsellor.

HODDESDON URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

Council Offices,
Hoddesdon,
Herts.

15th July, 1959.

To the Chairman and Members
of the Public Health Committee.

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

1 9 5 8

Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen,

I submit for your consideration my Report for the year ended 31st December, 1958.

STAFF AND ADMINISTRATION

There were no changes in the staff during the year.

As was anticipated, it has been possible during 1958 to increase the amount of slum clearance work with the results as given on Page 3.

Activity in connection with certificates of disrepair under the Rent Act 1957 has reduced and the number of applications for improvement grants was lower than in previous years. This has been more than balanced by increased work in connection with drainage, water supply and food hygiene as the information in the following pages will show.

In addition, careful consideration has had to be given to the "prior approval" aspect of the Clean Air Act and some time has been devoted to the maintenance of the new smoke filter and volumetric sulphur dioxide apparatus installed during the year.

It is notable that once again there was a decrease in the number of animals found to be effected with tuberculosis at the slaughterhouse. There was also a reduction in cysticercus bovis and other diseases.

I should again like to record my appreciation of the support I have received from the Chairman and Members of the Public Health Committee and from Dr. R.P. Garrow who was temporary Medical Officer of Health to the East Herts. Combined Sanitary Districts for the period covered by this Report.

My thanks are also due to the other Chief Officers of the Council for their co-operation during the year and to my own staff for their continued interest and loyal support in work which has often been burdensome.

W.N. David

Chief Public Health Inspector.

WATER SUPPLIES

PUBLIC MAINS SUPPLY:

With the exception of a few houses in the outlying parts of the district, water is derived from the Metropolitan Water Board's mains. This supply was sampled with satisfactory results.

PRIVATE SUPPLIES:

Thirty three samples of domestic water supplies were taken during the year. Twenty one of these were derived from shallow wells, five from bore wells, five from the River Lea and one from a surface spring. Sixteen samples, which represent the supplies to ten premises, proved to be unsatisfactory or of doubtful quality.

In two cases, negotiations were entered into for mains connections (and were successful early in 1959); in two cases boiling was advised pending further investigation; in three cases the owner/occupiers were advised to install filters and are being pressed to do so; in one case an overhaul of storage arrangements produced improvement; in one case (river supply) chlorination is being considered following doubtful results from filtration.

FACTORY SUPPLIES:

Ten samples of factory water supplies were taken, all from bore wells. Seven were satisfactory.

The three unsatisfactory samples represented two supplies, one of which gave satisfactory results after overhaul. The other showed some improvement and is still being dealt with.

All samples were examined at the Public Health Laboratory at Cambridge.

DRAINAGE & SEWERAGE

The greater part of the developed area of the district is sewered with outfalls at Broxbourne and Wormley which employ the broad irrigation, screening and settlement method, and at Hoddesdon where the sewage is treated at the Council's Rye Park Works.

The scheme to connect all the Public Sewers to the Rye Meads Sewage Disposal Works at Rye House, and thereby eventually dispense with the existing treatment plants, has started and the trunk sewer is now being laid.

Northern Drainage Area:

Fifteen more dwellings were connected to the new sewer serving this area, allowing the conversion of pail closets to water closets and the abolition of a cesspool used for sullage. Grants totalling £178 were made under Section 47 of the Public Health Act 1936 to the persons carrying out these conversions. Two more houses remained to be connected at the end of the year.

Private sewer, Hailey Lane:

One public house and two dwellings were connected to this sewer (which connects with the public sewer) allowing the abolition of the cesspool which previously served them.

Miscellaneous improvements:

Three dwellings were connected to small treatment plants (septic tank, filter and sub-soil irrigation) and the existing cesspools abolished. In two cases assistance was given by way of improvement grants.

REFUSE COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL

Household refuse is collected weekly and special arrangements exist for a weekly collection of trade refuse. This part of the Council's work is supervised by the Engineer and Surveyor.

The refuse is disposed of by controlled tipping at the Lodge Hollow, Cock Lane, Hoddesdon gravel pit owned and operated by Messrs. Inns. The tip is also used for the deposit of household refuse from the Borough of St. Pancras. Another tip in the district, at Church Lane, Wormley, is operated by the Borough of Edmonton for the disposal of their household refuse.

HOUSING ACTS 1936 - 1958

SLUM CLEARANCE:

A great deal of progress was made during the year and if the present rate can be maintained it is hoped that the Slum Clearance programme will be completed on schedule.

The following areas, comprising 33 houses, were inspected and represented during the year:

Nos. 38, 40, 42, 44, 46 and 48, Amwell Street, Hoddesdon
Nos. 1, 2, 3 and 4, The Avenue, High Street, Hoddesdon
Nos. 183, 185, 187, 189, and 191, High Road, Broxbourne
Nos. 50, 52, 54, 56, 58, 60 and 62, Westlea Road, Wormley
Nos. 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 and 7, Burford Terrace, Hoddesdon
Nos. 2 and 4, Plumes Yard, Hoddesdon
Nos. 14/16 and 18, Burford Street, Hoddesdon.

In addition to the foregoing, 9 other dwellings were inspected for representation during 1959.

A dwelling, No. 61, Burford Street, Hoddesdon, included in the Council's slum clearance programme and owned by the Ministry of Transport and Civil Aviation became vacant during the year. Representations were made to the Ministry of Transport who agreed to its demolition which took place soon after.

Although an appeal against a demolition order under Section 17 of the Housing Act 1957 on Timberwell Cottage, Cranbourne Drive, Hoddesdon was lodged it was later withdrawn.

Confirmation of Clearance Orders on the following areas was received:

Nos. 1, 3 and 5, Plumes Yard, Hoddesdon

Nos. 60a and 62a, Burford Street, Hoddesdon

Nos. 38, 40, 42, 44, 46 and 48, Amwell Street, Hoddesdon.

Objections were received concerning two of the areas and an inquiry was convened by the Ministry of Housing and Local Government. Objectors did, however, appear for one area and claimed that the dwellings were of architectural interest. The owner at the inquiry asked to be allowed to submit a proposal for improvements to bring the dwellings up to the standard of fitness required and also to preserve the architectural appeal. The Minister has accepted this inspector's report that the dwellings are unfit for habitation and the owner's proposals are now awaited.

During the year 29 persons from Slum Clearance dwellings were rehoused and the following dwellings were demolished.

No. 183, Lord Street, Hoddesdon

Nos. 23, 25 and 27 Duke Street, Hoddesdon

Nos. 18, 20, 22 and 24, High Road, Wormley

No. 61, Burford Street, Hoddesdon.

No. 30, High Road, Wormley, owned by the Council and used for emergency housing was also demolished.

HOUSES LET IN LODGINGS:

There was some increase in the number of Italians living in the district during the year. After the initial difficulty of contacting and explaining legal requirements, further inspections have not revealed any overcrowding.

IMPROVEMENT OF HOUSING ACCOMMODATION:

Improvement grants were approved on two properties, 96, Old Highway, Hoddesdon and 33, Whitley Road, Hoddesdon, both owner-occupied.

A grant was approved for the conversion of 2, Briscoe Road into two one-bedroom flats, one of which was subsequently let.

The following table compares 1956, 1957 and 1958 and shows the progress of schemes dealt with.

	1956		1957		1958	
	No. of Dwellings	Value of Grants	No. of Dwellings	Value of Grants	No. of Dwellings	Value of Grants
Brought forward	7	£1,374.17.0.	6	£1,670.10.0.	18	£4,006. 0. 0.
Approved during year	9	2,299.15.0.	24	4,893. 0.0.	4	530. 5. 0.
Completed "	8	1,674. 2.0.	11	2,383. 0.0.	21	4,368.15. 0.
Abandoned	2	330. 0.0.	1	174.10.0.	-	- - -
Carried forward	6	1,670.10.0.	18	4,006. 0.0.	1	167.10. 0.

In addition, money was advanced under Section 4 of the Housing Act, 1949 to the owner of 2, Briscoe Road, Hoddesdon to cover his share of the cost of the conversion work.

HOUSING PROGRESS:

	<u>During 1958</u>	<u>Total since end of the war</u>
<u>By Private Enterprise</u>		
New dwellings erected	74	842
War destroyed dwellings rebuilt.....	-	5
Repairs of war damaged houses	-	-
Conversions or adaptations in terms of family units -		23

By Local Authority

New dwellings erected.....	50	753
Conversions or adaptations in terms of family units -	-	8
Temporary prefabricated bungalows.....	-	38

By Other Authorities

(Including Police Cottages, etc.)

New dwellings erected	-	10
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Properties Controlled by the Local Authority at 31st December, 1958

Council Houses.....	1,114
Temporary Prefabricated Bungalows	38
Sundry Other Properties.....	14
Shops.....	4

Sale of Council Houses

One pre-war Council house was sold to the tenant during the year, bringing the total to 18.

RENT ACT, 1957

Although a number of enquiries from tenants and landlords has been dealt with, very little official action has been necessary, as will be seen from the following figures:

Application for Certificates of Disrepair	5
Certificates issued	Nil.
Defects remedied before issue of certificates	1
Undertakings received from landlords	4

INSPECTIONS ETC.

The following visits for inspection or re-inspection under the various Acts have been made:

PUBLIC HEALTH ACT 1936

Dwelling houses (Section 92 Nuisances)	310
Keeping of animals	2
Offensive accumulations	13
Dust and effluvia	26
Work places	7
Ditches and watercourses	33
Tents, vans and sheds	6
Drains and sewers	168
Closets	68
Dustbins	72
Inns, restaurants, cinemas (sanitary accommodation)	17
Verminous premises	4
Infectious diseases	15
Food poisoning	15
Water supplies	124
Swimming pool	23
Home Safety	1

PET ANIMALS ACT 1951:

2

HERTFORDSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL ACT

Refuse tips	16
Music and dancing licensing	17
Moveable dwellings	57

CLEAN AIR ACT 1956

Industrial premises	6
Miscellaneous	43

HOUSING ACTS

Individual unfit	16
Clearance	356
Overcrowding	23
Other	25
Improvement grants	166
Rent Act	58

FACTORIES ACTS

Power	47
Non-power	4
Building sites	3

Agriculture (Safety Health and Welfare Provisions) Act 1956	2
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FOOD AND DRUGS ACT 1955

Hygiene Regulations/Byelaws - shops	136
" " " - stalls and vehicles	103
" " " - personal hygiene	71
Section 16 - ice cream	5
Milk distribution	24
Food inspection - meat	126
" " - other	13
Sampling	3
Slaughterhouses	3
Ice cream (Heat Treatment) Regulations	6

SHOPS ACT 1950

Section 38	11
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PREVENTION OF DAMAGE BY PESTS ACT 1949

Rodents - Domestic Premises	1,046
" - Business Premises	181
" - Farms	58
" - Refuse Tips	4
" - Sewers	3
Insects	15
Miscellaneous	86
Interviews with owners, agents, builders etc.	115

PUBLIC HEALTHFLOODING:

During June the heavy rains brought flooding to three areas in the district. One small area involved four dwellings, Nos. 1 - 4, The Avenue, High Street, Hoddesdon (later represented as a Clearance Area). A culvert near these premises was unable to take the volume of water from a small stream and the water rose to such a height that it entered the houses.

Another instance was at Charlton Mead, a low lying area near the River Lea, where there is a number of bungalows. There is no sewer system or piped water supply to these premises - they have pail closets, cesspools and shallow wells. Most of the dwellings are built on piers and whilst there was no flooding of these premises their water supply was endangered. Bacteriological examination of the water from the wells, however, gave unsatisfactory results in one case only. The land owners were advised to cleanse and regrade the ditches and a great deal of work has been done to improve the drainage of this low lying area.

The sewer in Cozens Lane East, Broxbourne became surcharged and overflowed during this period and also during a period of heavy rain in February causing nuisance to a small number of the prefabricated bungalows in this road. The June flooding was particularly severe and affected a larger area than before. Every effort has been made to alleviate the trouble but it is understood that no permanent solution is likely to be found until the Council's new sewerage scheme is put into operation.

Lea Valley Flood Warning:

Following the issue of a flood warning, eight families occupying caravans moved from low-lying land on Glen Faba Site in Essex and parked the caravans on land owned by this Council.

There were no sanitary facilities or water supply, on this land. Temporary closet accommodation and a stand-pipe water supply were provided for the 37 persons concerned until 4th March when they were all able to return to their original site.

INSECTS:

Apart from a few cases of flea infestation four enquiries were received from householders concerning insect infestation.

In three instances the insects were of the psocid variety which feed on mildews and moulds scarcely visible to the human eye. Two of the houses involved were of recent construction where the moisture present from the drying of the plaster was sufficient to create favourable conditions for these insects.

SWIMMING POOL:

The "Spinning Wheel" Swimming Pool in Hoddesdon which is owned by the Council and administered by the Engineer and Surveyor was opened again in 1958 from Monday the 27th April, 1958 to Wednesday the 30th September, 1958.

Water is supplied to the pool from the public mains and is treated by filtration and "break point" chlorination. The water is heated as required to a reasonable temperature.

Regulation routine residual chlorine tests are made at the pool and samples were taken for bacteriological examination at the Public Health Laboratory at Cambridge. All the tests showed the water to be satisfactory.

CLEAN AIR

With the coming into operation of the Clean Air Act factory owners and nurserymen in the district were informed by letter of its main provisions and in particular Sections 3 and 10, relating to smokelessness, prior approval and chimney heights.

One application was received for approval (which was given) in respect of three oil-fired boilers to provide heat for glasshouses in a local nursery which was being converted from coal fired boilers.

A "courtesy application" was made by the Ministry of Agriculture Fisheries and Food in respect of a new experimental horticultural station which was also to be heated by oil-fired boilers.

If this trend to oil-firing continues I feel that the question of chimney heights in this valley which is prone to temperature inversion conditions, will have to be considered very seriously so as to minimise the trouble which could arise from discharge of SO₂ and other pollutants.

MEASUREMENT AND RECORDING OF POLLUTION:

A smoke filter and volumetric sulphur dioxide apparatus was set up at the rear of the Council Offices and recordings commenced on 1st May, 1958. The average monthly readings are given in the table below.

Month	Concentration of smoke in mg.per cu. m. of air	Concentrations of sulphur dioxide in volumes per 100 million volumes of air
May	1.9	1.4
June	2.0	1.4
July	1.9	0.9
August	3.0	1.0
September	3.0	1.0
October	6.0	2.2
November	10.0	3.1
December	11.0	2.3

The existing two stations, each consisting of a deposit gauge collecting soot, ash, grit etc. and a lead peroxide instrument for measuring sulphur, continued to function. Details of the readings taken during the year are given in the following table:

Month	Rain- fall in.	Insoluble Deposit	Soluble Deposit	Total Solids	SO ₃ mg./day/100 cm. of Batch A Lead Peroxide
Tons per square mile					
<u>Station No. 1</u> <u>Council Offices, High Street, Hoddesdon</u>					
January	3.10	4.06	2.18	6.24	1.64
February	1.70	3.36	2.42	5.78	1.30
March	0.70	3.89	2.58	6.47	1.16
April	0.87	3.09	2.25	5.34	0.90
May	2.60	4.26	2.68	6.94	0.74
June	4.77	2.95	3.09	6.04	0.61
July	2.51	3.29	3.42	6.71	0.35
August	2.69	3.22	1.57	4.79	0.36
September	3.32	3.05	2.58	6.63	0.49
October	3.14	2.62	1.81	4.43	1.28
November	0.57	1.71	1.38	3.09	1.09
December	2.56	4.09	2.79	6.88	1.52

Month	Rain- fall in.	Insoluble Deposit	Soluble Deposit	Total Solids	SO3 mg./day/100 cm. of Batch A Lead Peroxide
Tons per square mile					
<u>Station No. 2</u> <u>New River Close, Hoddesdon</u>					
January	2.24	4.87	3.06	7.93	1.12
February	2.11	4.51	3.42	7.93	0.95
March	0.90	4.97	3.65	8.62	0.95
April	0.96	4.28	2.73	7.01	0.64
May	2.74	7.31	4.77	12.08	0.39
June	5.08	3.59	2.96	6.55	0.51
July	3.44	4.15	3.36	7.51	0.25
August	2.92	3.36	2.47	5.83	0.34
September	3.52	2.80	2.27	5.07	0.31
October	3.49	4.25	2.70	6.35	0.67
November	0.61	1.42	2.70	4.12	1.11
December	2.51	4.54	3.10	7.64	0.91

The graph on Page 12 gives a comparison of the readings for 1958 with those of the three previous years.

MILK AND DAIRIES

Number of dairies registered.....	7
Number of dealers licenced.....	19
Number of dealers licensed to sell Tuberculin Tested Milk	7
Number of dealers licensed to sell Pasteurized Milk	12
Number of dealers from other districts licensed to sell milk in the district (supplementary licences)	2

There are no pasteurizing or bottling plants in the district.

Sampling:

Four milk samples were taken from dealers in the district during the year. Results showed that all the samples complied with the Special Designations Regulations.

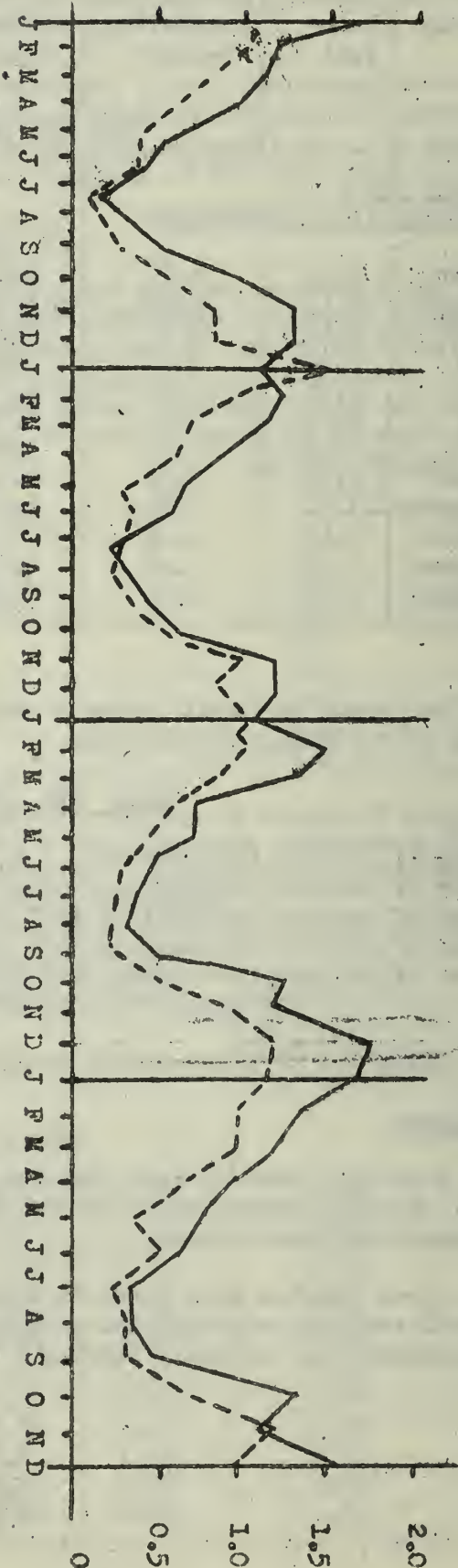
Three samples were taken from producers in the district by the County Council sampling officers and examined biologically for Bacillus Tuberculosis and brucella Abortus. All proved to be negative.

Station No. 1. _____

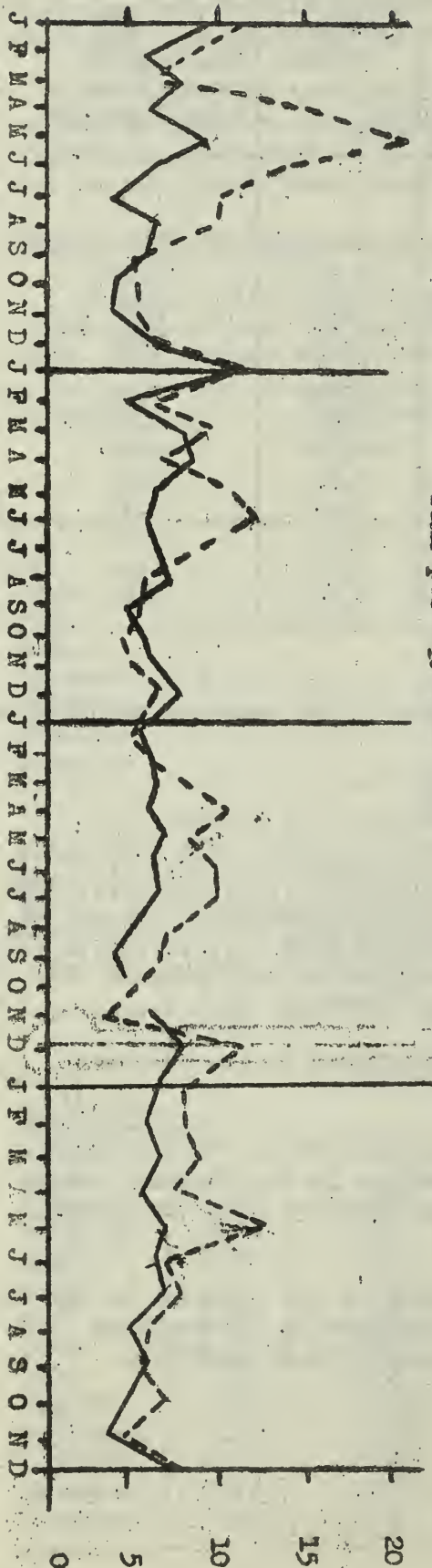
Station No. 2. _____

ESTIMATION OF SULPHUR BY LEAD PEROXIDE METHOD

mg. per day per 100 cm.



DEPOSITED MATTER
Tons per Sq. Mile



FOOD HYGIENE REGULATIONS, 1955:

Inspection of food premises under the above regulations continued throughout the year. 207 visits were made to these premises and many improvements were gained by informal action. Where structural alterations or additions have been carried out the department has in most instances given advice on suitable materials.

All the School Canteens were inspected and I am pleased to report that, with the co-operation of the County Architect's Department and the County Public Health Inspector, improvements have been effected.

During 1958 there was an increase in the use of pre-packed and frozen foodstuffs and by December some grocery shops had gone over to this system almost completely.

The approximate number of food premises of different types is given below:

Bakehouses	6	
Bakery and confectionery shops	8	
Restaurants and refreshment rooms	18	
Public houses	26	
Sweet shops	28	
Grocery shops	47	
Greengrocer shops	14	
Butchers shops	14	
Fishmongers shops	5	(3 shops sell both wet and
Fried fish shops	3	fried fish)
Factory canteens	14	
School canteens	12	
Miscellaneous food premises	5	

SECTION 16 FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1955:

There are 18 premises registered for the preparation or manufacture of sausages or potted, pickled or preserved food and there are 57 premises registered for the sale or storage for sale of ice cream. There are no premises registered for the manufacture of ice cream.

Spot checks have been made to ascertain that ice cream at these premises is stored at the proper temperature.

Five dealers use vehicles for the retail of ice cream in the district, their registered premises being situated outside the district.

Inspection revealed that these vehicles are equipped with a wash hand basin with an outlet, hot water in insulated containers and soap and towels.

MARKET:

As in previous years, regular inspection of the market stalls was maintained and attention directed to the prevention of contamination of foodstuffs.

Some difficulty was experienced with one of the stalls which was exposing horsemeat for sale from an unscreened stall. The stallholder eventually displayed appropriate notices in a conspicuous position.

UN SOUND FOOD:

Food surrendered as being unfit for human consumption is listed below. Most of the canned food was rejected because of decomposition or damage to the containers. Except in the case of carcass meat and offal encountered in the course of inspection at the slaughterhouse, food was surrendered by retailers.

Disposal of unsound food is by deep burial at the controlled tip in Cock Lane, Hoddesdon.

Canned Foodstuffs

	cwt.	lbs.
Corned beef		10
Jerried veal		18
Ham		119 $\frac{1}{2}$
Chopped pork		24
Milk		10
Canned meats		68 $\frac{1}{4}$
Miscellaneous		4 $\frac{1}{2}$
	2.	30 $\frac{1}{4}$

Fresh Meat

	cwt.	lbs.
Bovine lungs		21
Bovine livers		45
Bovine heads		24
Porcine heads		30
Porcine hearts		2
Porcine livers		16
Porcine lungs		12
	1.	38.

Other Food

	cwt.	lbs.
Imported lambs plucks		82
Imported pigs kidneys		14
Cheese products		4 $\frac{1}{2}$
		100 $\frac{1}{2}$

Total weight of all foodstuffs 4. 56 $\frac{3}{4}$

SLAUGHTERHOUSE:

The existing slaughterhouse continued to operate during the year.

Details of carcasses inspected during the year are given below.

Carcasses and Offal inspected and condemned in whole or in part

	Cattle Ex. Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs	Horses
Number killed	158	-	4	346	250	-
Number inspected	158	-	4	346	250	-
<u>All diseases except Tuberculosis and Cysticercosis</u>						
Whole carcasses condemned	-	-	-	-	-	-
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	11	-	-	-	8	-
Percentage of number inspected affected with disease other than tuberculosis and cysticerci	4.34	-	-	-	3.20	-
<u>Tuberculosis only</u>						
Whole carcasses condemned	-	-	-	-	-	-
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	-	-	-	-	3	-
Percentage of number inspected affect with tuberculosis only	-	-	-	-	1.20	-
<u>Cysticercosis only</u>						
Whole carcasses condemned	-	-	-	-	-	-
Carcasses of which some part of organ was condemned	1	-	-	-	-	-
Percentage of number inspected affected with cysticercosis	0.63	-	-	-	-	-

SLAUGHTERMEN:

Three persons were licenced to act as slaughtermen under the Slaughter of Animals Act, 1933.

PREVENTION OF DAMAGE BY PESTS ACT, 1949

Private Dwellings:

Sixty complaints of infestation were received and the premises inspected and advice or treatment given free of charge.

Business Premises:

Four contracts for treatment of business premises were in operation during the year and twenty-three premises were treated and charged for on a time and material basis.

Agricultural Properties:

In accordance with the recommendations contained in the report of the Wilson Committee, the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food withdrew their rodent service to agricultural premises. This effected three farms in the district. In one case the owner agreed to the Council taking over the work and a formal contract was entered into.

Sewers:

Test baiting of the Council's three sewerage systems was carried out in June with the following results:

	<u>Hoddesdon & Rye Park</u>	<u>Broxbourne</u>	<u>Wormley</u>
Total No. of Sewer Manholes (approx.)	325	212	89
No. of Manholes Test Baited	31	17	7
No. of Manholes Showing "Takes"	9	-	-

Treatment was carried out as follows:

June, 1958:

No. of Manholes Baited	26	-	-
No. of Manholes showing "Takes"	10	-	-

Rats

Together with the usual routine rodent control two large infestations were dealt with. One, a reservoir infestation occurred at the Church Lane, Wormley Refuse Tip. Eradication using Warfarin was complete. The other, a major one, was in a poultry rearing establishment where a considerable reduction was achieved, again using Warfarin and the treatment is continuing.

Summary:

Details of inspections made, infestation recorded and treatments carried out during the year, are given in the table below:

		TYPE OF PROPERTY				
		Local Authority	Dwelling Houses	Business Premises	Agricultural	Total
1. Number of Properties inspected as a result of:						
(a)	Notification	6	54	18	2	80
(b)	Survey under the Act	12	216	31	19	278
(c)	Otherwise (e.g. when visited for some other purpose)	6	380	3	-	389
		24	650	52	21	747
II. Total inspections carried out including reinspections						
		58	1,009	158	57	1,282
III. Number of properties inspected which were found to be infested by:-						
(a)	Rats Major:	1	-	1	-	2
	Minor:	11	60	14	3	88
(b)	Mice Major:	-	-	-	-	-
	Minor:	1	12	6	-	19
		13	72	21	3	109
IV. Number of infested properties treated by the Local Authority						
		13	72	21	3	109
V. Total treatments carried out including re-inspections						
		15	81	32	7	135

HERTFORDSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL ACT, 1935

MOVEABLE DWELLINGS:

Consent was given during the year to the placing of six caravans on various sites in the Urban District. In all cases the consent was for the period to the end of the year.

Dobbs Weir Caravan Camp, Charlton Meadow, Dobbs Weir:

Consent exists in respect of 100 dwellings at this Camp until 1960. The camp continues to be well managed and the water supply (from a bore well) was satisfactory when subjected to bacteriological examination.

PET ANIMALS ACT, 1951

Two pet shops are licenced under the provisions of the Act and continue to be operated satisfactorily.

GAME ACT, 1831

Four persons were licensed to deal in game

FACTORIES ACTS, 1937 and 1948

The following is a summary of information already supplied in detail to the Ministry of Labour and National Service on Form 572 (Revised) in respect of the year 1957.

Part 1 of the Act

1. Inspections for purposes of provisions as to health

Factories without Mechanical Power:

Number of register	6
Inspections	4

Factories with Mechanical Power:

Number on register	94
Inspections	47
Written notices	-

Other Premises under the Act:

(Electric Stations, Institutions, Sites of Building Operations, Works of Engineering Construction, but excluding Outworkers' Premises).

Number on register	8
Inspections	3
Written notices	-

2. Cases in which defects were found

<u>Defects</u>	<u>Found</u>	<u>Remedied</u>
Want of cleanliness	-	-
Sanitary conveniences:		
(a) Insufficient	-	1
(b) Unsuitable or defective	6	4

Total defects referred to H.M. Inspector -
Total defects referred by H.M. Inspector -

Part VIII of the Act

OUTWORK (Sections 110 and 111)

Nature of Work	No. of Outworkers in August List
33. Paper bags	18
34. Making of boxes or other receptacles of paper	9

